

WAKE FOREST URBAN FORESTRY BOARD

MINUTES

May 8, 2006

Members Present: Hughen Nourse, John Rich, John Patterson, John Pelosi, Liz Ford, Stephanie Farley, Jennifer McGehean.

Members Absent: Pete Jordan, Earl Creutzbur, Velma Boyd (ex-officio)

CALL TO ORDER

Hughen Nourse called the regular meeting of the Wake Forest Urban Forestry Board to order at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: John Pelosi moved to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2006 meeting as submitted. Liz Ford seconded and the motion carried unanimously (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS

A. The Year Ahead

Members discussed goals and objectives for the next year. Continuing the Maintenance Program, providing more workshops for town workers and the public, improving the Town's Urban Forestry page with links to existing urban forestry related sites, and revising the Town's Landscape Ordinance are among the priority goals of the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Arbor Day Review

This year's Arbor Day Celebration, held March 16, was a true success.

Altogether, well over 150 people attended the ceremony, including first and second graders from Wake Forest Elementary School and many of their parents, who were on hand to watch what can only be described as a most entertaining musical routine.

Mayor Vivian Jones kicked off the festivities by welcoming everyone in attendance and providing a brief history of Arbor Day. She also introduced Brian

Bockhahm, a Park Ranger with the NC Division of Parks & Recreation, who was the day's featured speaker. Bockham talked about his responsibilities as a park ranger, but focused on the importance of trees not only to people, but especially to wildlife. As part of his presentation, he brought along several stuffed animals, which proved to be a favorite for both the kids and their parents.

Following Bockham's address, a representative from the NC Division of Resources presented the mayor with the Tree City USA and Growth Awards.

Urban Forestry Board Chair Hughen Nourse then presented the Arbor Day Poster Contest awards to Liam Finn (Best Picture); Brett Zeck (Most Creative); and Elise King (Honorable Mention). Planner Potts presented each child with a framed certificate and a \$50 US Savings Bond. Liam Finn received a special honor as his picture served as the illustration on this year's Arbor Day T-shirts.

Next, Hughen Nourse gave out the Green Medal Awards to this year's winners: Pete Jordan (Corporate Green Medal), Wake Forest Woman's Club (Civic Green Medal), and Hughen Nourse and Liz Ford (Community Forrester Green Medals).

The morning's highlight occurred next when the first graders from Wake Forest Elementary School took the floor to perform several musical numbers. Many included props such as kazoos, sunglasses, and dance steps. Talk about show stoppers! By the time they finished, the cheering audience left little doubt as to who stole the show on this morning!

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.